

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 4 are pending in the application, with Claims 1 and 4 amended and Claims 3 and 6 cancelled by the present amendment.

In the outstanding Official Action, Claim 3 was objected to; Claims 1 and 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lerner (U.S. Patent No. 3,707,640) in view of Simpson et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,730,887); and Claims 3 and 6 were indicated as allowable.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication of the allowable subject matter.

All the features of allowable Claims 3 and 6 have been incorporated into independent Claims 1 and 4, respectively. In addition, the error cited as the basis for the outstanding objection to Claim 3 is corrected. No new matter is added. Therefore, Applicants submit that the outstanding rejections of Claims 1 and 4 are moot and that amended Claims 1 and 4 are allowable at least for the reasons cited in the Official Action regarding the allowability of now-cancelled Claims 3 and 6.¹

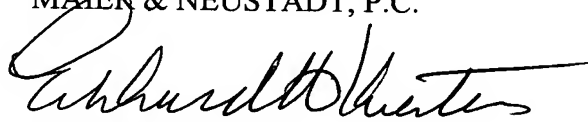
¹ Official Action, pages 6-7, numbered paragraphs 6 and 7.

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Accordingly, in view of the present amendment and in light of the previous discussion, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance and respectfully request an early and favorable action to that effect.

Respectfully submitted,

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